

In contrast, on June 11, 2006, the Taliban extremists burned a school and have been implicated or have claimed responsibility for damaging more than 45 schools, assassinating teachers and intimidating school-age children in the past year. Notwithstanding the Taliban threat, three volunteer teachers and 60 students traveled as far as 9 miles to attend the first day of school outside of their city in Afghanistan. That is progress.

The United States has provided more than \$87 million to health care programs throughout Afghanistan. This funding includes programs to train women as health care workers, community midwives, and improving health care, including the construction of women's wings at hospitals and dormitories. As of March, 2006, USAID has completed 454 clinics that serve 340,000 patients per month. Overall, the U.S. has provided basic health services to more than 5 million people in 14 provinces. USAID has trained over 6,000 Afghan community health care professionals.

As we can see, Mr. Speaker, much progress has been made in Afghanistan, but much work still remains. We must continue this process towards a free and prosperous Afghanistan.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CONAWAY) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, as the voice of truth, You tell us: "Whoever perseveres to the end will be saved."

On this Monday, as we embrace this week and the work You require of us, both as this institution of leadership and as Americans, Your children born of freedom, give us the grace of perseverance.

May daily work and prayerful hopes guide us a step at a time to reach the goals that will bring fulfillment to the promises of our constitutional lives as a people and lead us to find eternal reward for just deeds, both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 21, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Class 2(b) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 21, 2006, at 12:40 pm:

That the Senate Agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 448.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 21, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 21, 2006, at 10:00 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 112.
That the Senate passed with amendments H.R. 4472.

That the Senate passed S. 2690.

That the Senate passed S. 3187.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2977.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3440.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3549.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3934.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4108.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4456.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4561.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4688.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4786.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4995.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5245.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4101.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

PEACE, PEACE, AT ANY PRICE PEACE?

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, people cry peace, peace. But there can be no peace as long as there is one side that enjoys the shooting and refuses to stop.

Hezbollah, a gang of psychothugs and criminals, kidnapped Israelis and are firing rockets from their hole in the wall in southern Lebanon into Israel. Israel has responded and their commanders say they are going to take out these terrorists.

Now appeasement peaceniks who believe in peace at any price, like France's Chirac, want Israel to stop and talk things over, probably over a bottle of French wine.

But Hezbollah won't stop shooting. These are the same pseudopeace experts that told Israel to withdraw from occupying Lebanon. Israel did just that back in 2000, then gave up Gaza to the Palestinians so there would be so-called land for peace.

But the terrorists in Gaza, Hamas, are shooting rockets into southern Israel, while Hezbollah terrorists, still in Lebanon, are shooting rockets into northern Israel. And the world's peace police still whine for harmony.

Mr. Speaker, you make peace by making the terrorist criminals stop shooting. Here guns talk louder than appeasement words. And that's just the way it is.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On July 24, 1998, at 3:40 p.m., Officer Jacob J. Chestnut and Detective John M. Gibson of the United States Capitol Police were killed in the line of duty defending the Capitol against an intruder armed with a gun.

At 3:40 p.m. and in between votes that are to commence at 6:30 p.m., the Chair will recognize the anniversary of this tragedy by observing a moment of silence in their memory.

ALLEVIATING THE PROBLEM OF HIGH GAS PRICES

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a problem that faces all